

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for selecting skinnable interfaces comprising:
 accessing user specific information upon installation of an application on a
 computing resource that is associated with a user, said user associated with said user
 specific information;
 determining a selected user interface (UI) skin from a plurality of UI skins based
10 on said user specific information; and
 configuring said application to incorporate said selected UI skin as a default UI
 skin for said application.

- 15 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said determining a selected UI skin further
 comprises:
 associating said user with a selected partner from a plurality of partners based on
 said user specific information, wherein said plurality of partners is associated with said
 plurality of skins; and
 determining said selected UI skin based on said selected partner.

- 20 3. The method of Claim 2, further comprising:
 providing revenue sharing from said selected partner.

- 25 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said determining a selected UI skin further
 comprises:
 associating said user with a selected class from a plurality of classes based on said
 user specific information, wherein said plurality of classes is associated with said
 plurality of skins; and

determining said selected UI skin based on said selected class.

5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

displaying said selected UI skin as a user interface for said application when
5 running said application.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said application comprises a local portal for
accessing local resources on said computing resource and web based resources.

10 7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said configuring said application further
comprises:

selecting a background presentation associated with said UI skin;

adding at least one category that is dynamically defined based on said user specific
information over said background presentation, wherein said category comprises related
links to local resources on said computing resource and web based resources.

15 8. The method of Claim 1, wherein said user specific information comprises
behavioral logic available on said computing resource, said behavioral logic associating said
user to said selected UI skin.

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9. The method of Claim 1, wherein said accessing user specific information
further comprises:

accessing product registration information to access said user specific information.

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10 The method of Claim 1, wherein said accessing user specific information
further comprises:

querying said user for said user specific information upon installation of said
application.

11. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
loading only said selected UI skin when installing said application onto said
computing resource.

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12. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
dynamically updating said selected UI skin.

13. A partner specific user interface comprising:
10 a background presentation as background to a user interface application, wherein
said background presentation is associated with a selected skin chosen from a plurality of
skins based on user specific behavioral logic, wherein said user specific behavioral logic is
obtained during installation of an application on a computing resource; and
at least one category that is dynamically defined based on said user specific behavioral
15 logic and that is added to said background presentation in said selected skin for said user
interface application, wherein said category comprises related links to local resources on
said computing resource and web based resources.

14. The partner specific user interface of Claim 13, wherein said selected skin is
20 associated with a selected partner chosen from a plurality of partners based on said user
specific behavioral logic, and wherein said plurality of skins is associated with said
plurality of business partners.

15. The partner specific user interface of Claim 14, wherein said user specific
25 behavioral logic associates a user as a customer of said selected partner.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein said user purchased said computing
resource from said selected partner.

17. The partner specific user interface of Claim 13, wherein said category comprises an XML file for adding said category in said background presentation.

5 18. The partner specific user interface of Claim 13, wherein said selected skin is displayed upon starting said application.

19. The partner specific user interface of Claim 13, wherein said user interface application is started upon boot up of said computing resource.

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20. A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a computer readable memory coupled to said processor and containing program instructions that, when executed, implement a method for selecting skinnable interfaces comprising:

accessing user specific information upon installation of an application on a computing resource that is associated with a user, said user associated with said user specific information;

20 determining a selected user interface (UI) skin from a plurality of UI skins based on said user specific information; and

configuring said application to incorporate said selected UI skin as a default UI skin for said application.

21. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said determining a selected UI skin in said method further comprises:

associating said user with a selected partner from a plurality of partners based on said user specific information, wherein said plurality of partners is associated with said plurality of skins; and

determining said selected UI skin based on said selected partner.

22. The computer system of Claim 21, wherein said method further comprises: providing revenue sharing from said selected partner.

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23. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said determining a selected UI skin in said method further comprises:

associating said user with a selected class from a plurality of classes based on said user specific information, wherein said plurality of classes is associated with said plurality of skins; and

10 determining said selected UI skin based on said selected class.

24. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said method further comprises:

displaying said selected UI skin as a user interface for said application when

15 running said application.

25. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said application comprises a local portal for accessing local resources on said computing resource and web based resources.

20 26. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said configuring said application in said method further comprises:

selecting a background presentation associated with said UI skin;

adding at least one category that is dynamically defined based on said user specific information over said background presentation, wherein said category comprises related links to local resources on said computing resource and web based resources.

27. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said user specific information comprises behavioral logic available on said computing resource, said behavioral logic associating said user to said selected UI skin.

5 28. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said accessing user specific information in said method further comprises:
accessing product registration information to access said user specific information.

10 29. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said accessing user specific information in said method further comprises:

querying said user for said user specific information upon installation of said application.

15 30. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said method further comprises:
loading only said selected UI skin when installing said application onto said computing resource.

31. The computer system of Claim 20, wherein said method further comprises:
dynamically updating said selected UI skin.